Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL YAOUNDE 4022

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SHUM, CM SUBJ: WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, GENEVA, AUGUST 14-25, 1978

REF: (A) STATE 207657, (B) STATE 204786, (C) YAOUNDE 3903, (D) YAOUNDE 3113

1. EFFORTS MAKE DEMARCHE HAMPERED BY ABSENCE FOREIGN MINISTER KEUTCHA AND SECRETARY GENERAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OWONO. I RELUCTANTLY REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER NDAM NUOYA AND PUT IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON SUBJECT, KNOWING NJOYA PROBABLY OVERWHELMED WITH VISIT CHINESE VICE PRIME MINISTER, NORMAL WORK AS MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, PLUS WHATEVER ROUTINE BUSINESS HE ABLE HANDLE AS AD INTERIM MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS. AUDIENCE GRANTED AUGUST 19 AND DEMARCHES MADE ON RACISM, PUERTO RICO, AND ZAIRE-ANGOLA VERIFICATION COMMISSION (LAST TWO BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY). RESULTS INCONCLUSIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. IT IS VACATION TIME IN CAMEROON AND CONSEQUENTLY I WAS FORCED TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON RACISM TO NDAM JNOYA, FORMER CONFIDENTIAL

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VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO CURRENTLY SERVING AS FOREIGN MINISTER AD INTERIM, IN ADDITION TO HIS NORMAL TASKS AS MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION. NJOYA IS CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER AND MOSLEM. HE ALSO PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO, LEADER OF CAMEROONIAN UNESCO DELEGATION, AND CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD (REPORTED REFTEL C). THEREFORE, IN ADDITION TO

POINTS REFTEL B, REFERENCE WAS MADE TO HIS DISCUSSIONS ON UNESCO DRAFT DECLARATION ON RACE AND RACISM DURING DALLEY-HOLLOWAY VISIT (REFTEL D) AND POINT EMPHASIZED THAT ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON MAIN TASK OF COMBATTING RACISM, WITHOUT GETTING BOGGED DOWN IN EXTRANEOUS POLITICAL ISSUES.

3. NJOYA MADE USUAL NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE, BUT DID PROMISE TO LET ME KNOW ON THIS AND OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED. SINCE HE DOES HAVE REPUTATION AS RESPONSIBLE BUREAUCRAT, I AM HOPEFUL THAT NOT ONLY WILL HE RESPOND, BUT HE MAY INFER A CONNECTION WHICH WAS NOT IMPLIED WITH RESPECT TO ENHANCEMENT OF CHANCES OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD. MITHOEFER

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